

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-12 AID-20 DPW-01 SR-02

ORM-03 /132 W

----- 013779

O R 091025 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1403

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC

CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 8142

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUATION REPORT FOR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

THIS REPORT SUMMARIZED ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE
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EMBASSY AS OF 1800 MAY 9.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

PART I ICCS: POLDEL CHAIRMAN OF ICCS TO CALL ON FONMIN;
ICCS FACING FINANCIAL CRISIS

PART II TPJMC: THREE OF SECOND BATCH OF RELEASED GVN
DETAINEES ELECT " RALLIER" STATUS

PART III GVN/ PRG BILATERAL TALKS; DR. NGUYEN NGOC HUY
EXPLAINS NEGATIVE PRG ATTITUDE TO VIETNAMESE
STUDENTS IN FRANCE

PART IV MR 1: ICCS UNDERTAKING INVESTIGATIONS IN THUA
THIEN, QUANG NGAI; PRISONER RELEASE IN QUANG
NGAI RESCHEDULED FOR MAY 11

PAR V MR 2: ARVN ACTION NEAR PRISONER RELEASE SITES
DELAYS RELEASE; LOCAL POPULACE UNCERTAIN ABOUT
ICCS IN PHU BON

PART VI MR 3: INCIDENTS REMAINMENT.
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42
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-12 DPW-01 AID-20 RSR-01

SR-02 ORM-03 /133 W
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O R 091025 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1404
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
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AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 8142

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VS
SUBJECT: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUATION REPORT FOR MAY 9, 1973

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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EMBASSY AS OF 1800 MAY 9.

PART V: MR 2

1. MR-2 CONTINUED QUIET DURING LAST 24 HOUR PERIOD WITH ONLY SIX INCIDENTS REPORTED AT REGIONAL BRIEFING. ALL INCIDENTS, EXCEPT ONE MINOR VC ABF IN NORTHERN BINH DINH, WERE MININGS, WHICH OCCURRED IN PHU YEN, BINH DINH, AND DARLAC PROVINCES. THERE WERE NO ENEMY LOSSES, BUT RVNAF SUFFERED THREE DIA, AND EIGHT WIA. TWO CIVILIANS WERE KILLED BY A PRESSURE DETONATED MINE IN SOUTHERN PHU YEN. NEARBY, IN NORTHERN TUY AN DISTRICT OF PHU YEN, VC SAPPERS REPORTEDLY BLEW UP 30 METERS OF RAILROAD TRACK. THIS IS FIFTH TIME VC HAVE SABOTED RAILROAD IN PHU YEN SINCE MARCH 20.

2. PHU YEN DEPUTY PROVINCE CHIEF FOR SECURITY RECENTLY TOLD ARRO THAT THE CIVILIAN PRISONER RELEASE SITE FIRST PROPOSED BY PRG ON APRIL 27 WAS SITUATED IN AN NGHIEP VILLAGE IN NORTHERN WEDGE OF TUY AN DISTRICT, ABOUT 500 METERS SOUTH OF ROUTE 6 B AND JUST TWO KMS FROM AN RF COMPANY OUTPOST. ON FOLLOWING DAY, GVN REPS MADE COUNTER PROPOSAL THAT RELEASE BE CONDUCTED AT LOCATION APPROXIMATELY FOUR KMS SOUTHWEST OF PRG- PROPOSED SITE. PRG APPARENTLY ACCEPTED GVN PROPOSAL. ON MAY 1 RF COMPANY CONDUCTED CLEARING OPERATION OVER AREA OF FIRST PRG- PROPOSED SITE AND PLANTED NUMEROUS RVN FLAGS THERE. TPJMC DELEGATION FROM SAIGON TO INSPECT GVN- PROPOSED RELEASE SITE ON MAY 3 WAS FORCED TO DELAY LANDING THEIR HELICOPTER FOR 20 MINUTES DUE TO FIREFIGHT BETWEEN RF AND VC IN IMMEDIATE AREA. CONTACT WAS BROKEN AFTER FIVE TO TEN MINUTE CLASH. TPJMC CRAFT THEN SET DOWN, AND PARTY WAS MET BY LOCAL PRG GROUP WHICH EMERGED FROM BUSH BEARING COKE, SERVED BY COMELY FEMALE VC CADRE AND DISCUSSION FOLLOWED FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES. NATURE OF TALK NOT DISCLOSED BY DEP PC (WHO GOT HIS INFORMATION FROM GVN CHIEF OF TUY AN TPJMT), BUT WE PRESUME THAT LOCAL PRG SOMEWHAT RANKLED BY ARVN OPERATIONS IN VICINITY OF RELEASE SITES.

3. ICCS WHO? POLOFF PHU BON REPORTS THAT OF 135 PEOPLE

INTERVIEWED BY NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH PROGRAM IN THREE VILLAGES OF THUAN MAN DISTRICT, 133 DID NOT RPT DID NOT KNOW WHAT THE ICCS WAS OR WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO DO. IN DARLAC PROVINCE, HOWEVER, PROVINCE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION TEAMS' SURVEYS
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OF A NUMBER OF TOWNS AND HAMLETS REVEALED CONSIDERABLE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ICCS AND THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE GVN HAS HELD SEMINARS IN THE LATTER AREA TO EXPLAIN THE AGREEMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS.

4. ARRO REP CAM RANH REPORTED MAY 8 THAT THE CAM RANH ICCS POINT OF ENTRY TEAM WAS MADE UP OF TWO CANADIANS, TWO HUNGARIANS, THREE INDONESIANS, BUT NO POLES. HE ADDED THAT TEAM DID NOT RPT DID NOT SEEM TO BE TOO INTERESTED IN MONITORING PORT ACTIVITIES.

PART VI MR3

1. NVA/ VC ACTIVITY IN MR 3 REMAINED LIGHT DURING THE LAST 24 HOURS. THERE WERE 19 COMMUNIST- INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED CONSISTING OF 8 GROUND CONTACTS, 6 ABF, 3 SNIPINGS AND 2 MINE INCIDENTS. TOTAL CASUALTIES REPORTED IN THE REGION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WERE 1 FRIENDLY KILLED, 15 WOUNDED AND 24 NVA/ VC KILLED. TONG LE CHAN RANGER BASE CAMP RECEIVED 72 ROUNDS OF ASSORTED MORTAR AND ROCKET FIRE. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

2. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 1230 HOURS MAY 8 WHEN AN RF BATTALION RECEIVED 10 ROUNDS OF 82 MM MORTAR FIRE FOLLOWED BY A GROUND ATTACK 7 KMS NORTH OF DUC HUE DISTRICT TOWN, HAU NGHIA. RESULTS WERE 1 FRIENDLY KILLED, 7 WOUNDED AND 17 NVA KILLED. THE COMMUNIST UNIT ALSO LOST 1 MACHINE GUN, 1 B-40, 1 M-79, 1 M-16, 1 75 MM RECOILLESS RIFLE, 1 CHINESE TELEPHONE, AND CONSIDERABLE AMMUNITION. (COMMENT: THE CAPTURE OF A TELEPHONE INDICATES THE INCIDENT MAY HAVE BEEN GVN- INITIATED, AS THE NVA DOES NOT CUSTOMARILY TAKE TELEPHONES ALONG ON GROUND ATTACKS. PERHAPS THIS INCIDENT IS BEST DESCRIBED, TO USE MR 3'S CG LTG MINH'S WORDS, AS AN " ENCOUNTER". END COMMENT.) ALSO AT 1230 HOURS THE COMMUNISTS ATTACKED ANOTHER RF COMPANY 5 KMS NORTH OF DUC HUE WOUNDING 2 RF MORTAR AND 3 BY SNIPER FIRE.

3. THIRTEEN ARVN SOLDIERS RELEASED BY THE VC IN CAMBODIA REACHED PHUOC NINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH ON MAY 8 AND WERE WELCOMED BY A LOCAL RF COMPANY.

PART VII MR 4

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1. ARVN SPOKESMEN REPORTED 58 INCIDENTS IN MR 4 ON MAY 8,

COMPARED TO 38 ON MAY 7. THESE INCLUDED THREE GROUND ATTACKS, 37 AFB, 15 HARASSMENTS BY FIRE, AND THREE ACTS OF TERRORISM AND SABOTAGE. CHUONG THIEN RECEIVED THE MOST ACTION, AND A LARGE NUMBER OF AFB'S AND HARASSMENTS WERE REPORTED ON THE VINH LONG - VINH BINH BORDER. FRIENDLY FORCES SUFFERED 12 KILLED AND 81 WOUNDED.

2. MINES TOOK A HEAVY TOLL OF RF/PF SOLDIERS ON MAY 7 IN SA DEC AND VINH BINH PROVINCES. A PATROL TRIGGERED A 105 MM MINE NORTHWEST OF SA DEC CITY, KILLING THREE AND WOUNDING FIVE. ANOTHER MINE IN CANG LONG DISTRICT, VINH BINH, KILLED TWO AND WOUNDED FIVE.

3. THE VC ATTACKED AN OUTPOST IN LONG MY DISTRICT, CHUONG THIEN, EARLY MAY 7, AND WERE REPULSED, REPORTEDLY WITH HEAVY LOSSES. THE POST WAS DEFENDED BY A PF PLATOON. THE BATTLE RAGED ALL DAY AND GVN ARTILLERY WAS DECISIVE IN DEFENDING THE POST. AT LEAST 20 VC WERE ESTIMATED KILLED, MOSTLY BY ARTILLERY, WHILE ONLY FOUR OR FIVE DEFENDERS WERE WOUNDED.

4. A CHIEU HOI RALLIER AND FORMER VC DEPUTY SQUAD LEADER TOLD THE BAC LIEU VICE CONSUL THAT IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH, VC PROVINCE BOUNDARIES WERE REDRAWN TO COINCIDE WITH THOSE OF THE GVN. VC SOC TRANG PROVINCE IS NOW CONGRUENT WITH GVN BA XUYEN PROVINCE AND INCLUDES KE SACH DISTRICT, FORMERLY ATTACHED TO VC CAN THO PROVINCE. A NEW VC BAC LIEU PROVINCE, WITH THE SAME NAME AND CONFIGURATION AS THE GVN'S HAS BEEN CARVED OUT OF THE OLD VC CA MAU AND SOC TRANG PROVINCES. THE RALLIER ALSO DESCRIBED HOW HIS LOCAL FORCE COMPANY WAS COMBINED WITH OTHERS AND UPGRADED TO FORM THE VC PHU LOI 2 BATTALION OPERATING IN BAC LIEU. THIS INFORMATION IS CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS INTELLIGENCE ON VC MILITARY REORGANIZATION IN BA XUYEN AND BAC LIEU PROVINCES. COMMENT: THESE NEW VC BATTALLIONS GIVE THE VC MORE PUNCH IN SELECTED AREAS BUT AT THE SAME TIME MAY INCREASE THEIR VULNERABILITY TO SUPERIOR RVNAF NUMBERS, FIREPOWER, AND MOBILITY. BUNKER

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VIENTIANE

WARSAW
PARIS
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